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Global Development Commons

*Search, Share, and Partner for a Better
World*

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT TRENDS LEADING TO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COMMONS (GDC)

TRADITIONAL FOCUS	NEW DIRECTION
Public and Government Institutions	Private Sector and Voluntary Organizations
Official Development Assistance	Private Capital Flows and Remittances
National Development Strategies	National, Sub-national, and Regional Plans
Development Practitioner Awareness	Public and Private Engagement
“Sole Proprietor” Approach	Evolving and Expanding Partnerships
Domestic and Local Market Oriented	International and Regional Trade Strategy
Providing Goods and Services	Building Capacity/Strengthening Institutions
Stable and Secure Environments	Unstable and Ungoverned Environments
Civilian-led Development	Civilian-Military Cooperation



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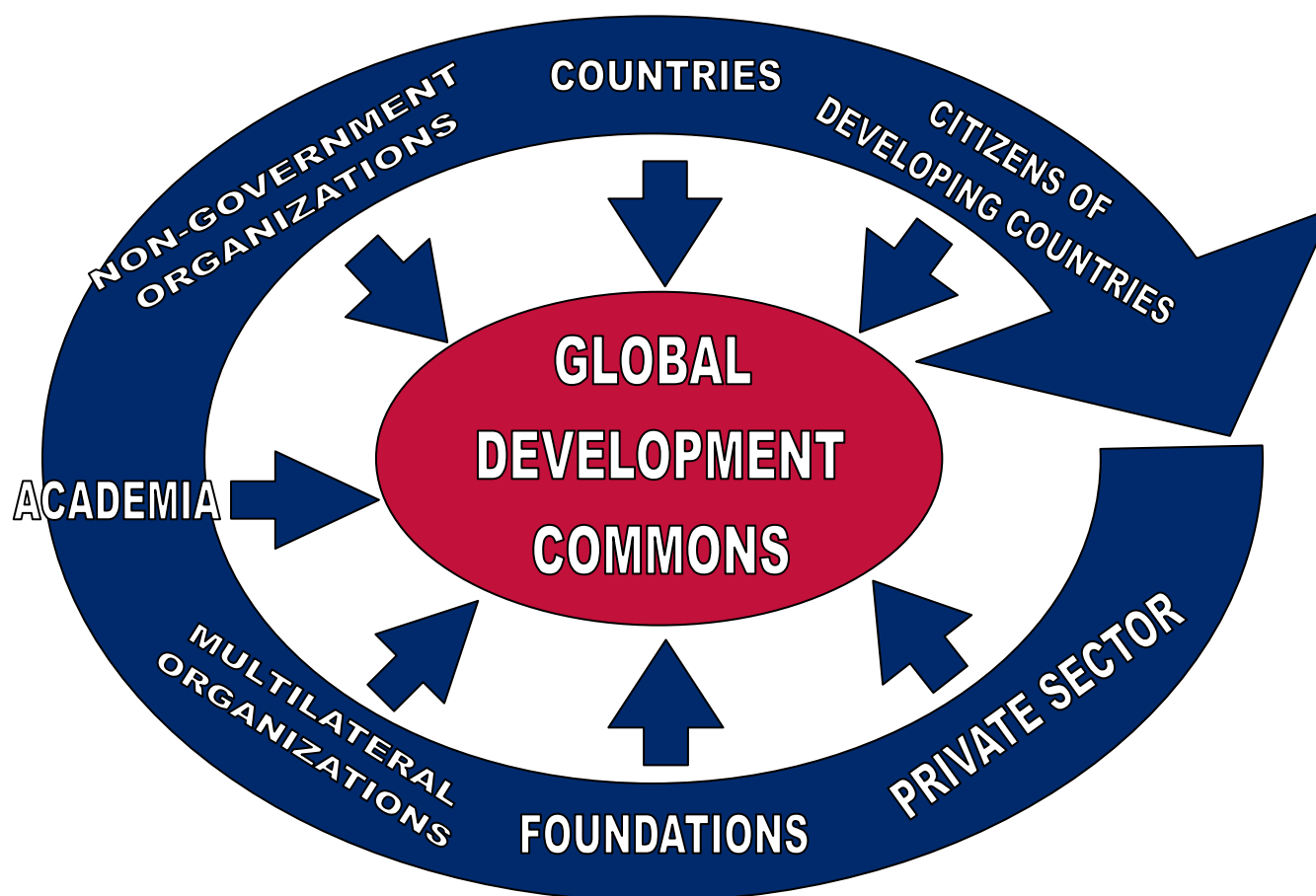
WHAT IS THE GDC?

- The ***Global Development Commons (GDC)*** is the space where development actors unite - *physically* and *virtually* - to gather and exchange information, and services, communicate and form partnerships.



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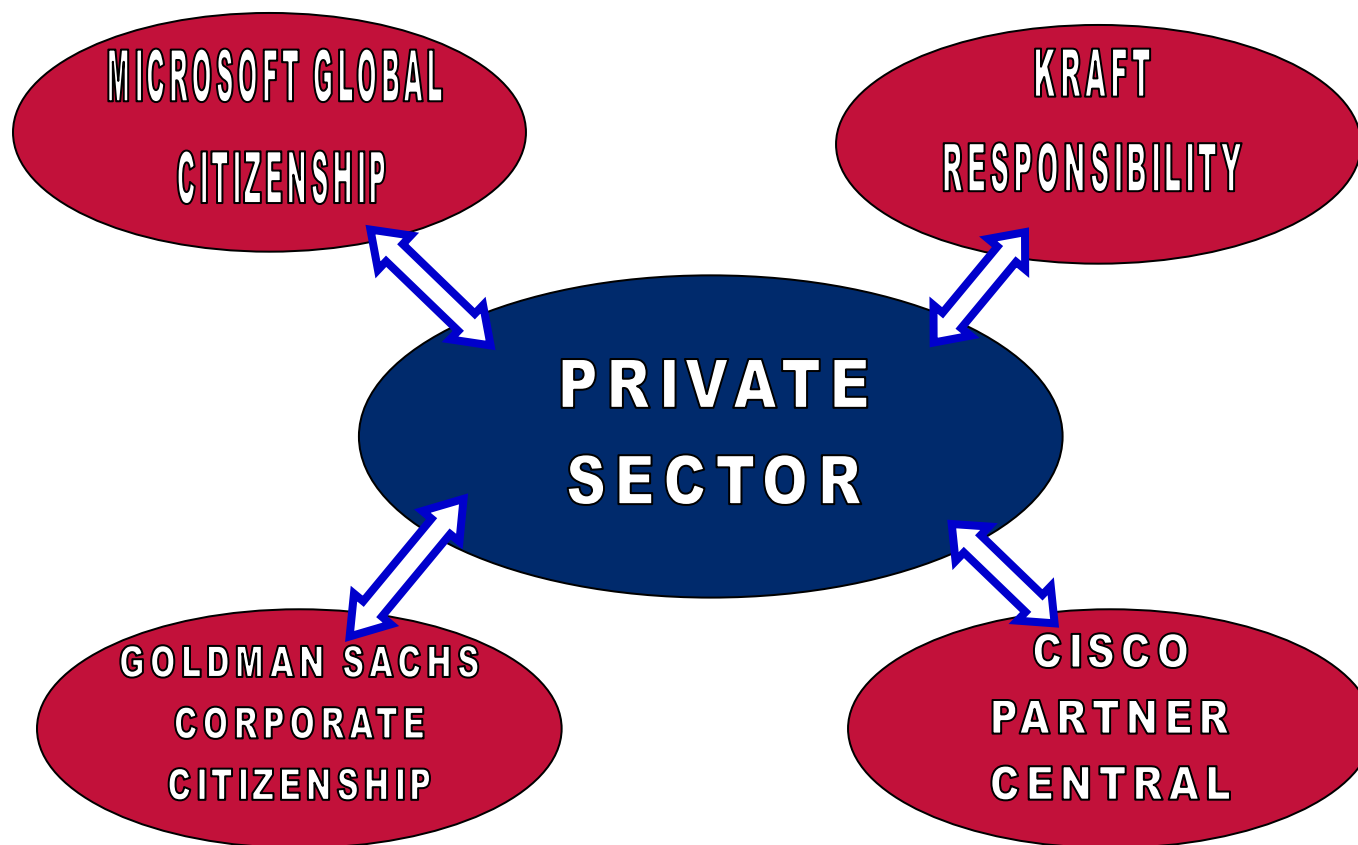
WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE GDC?





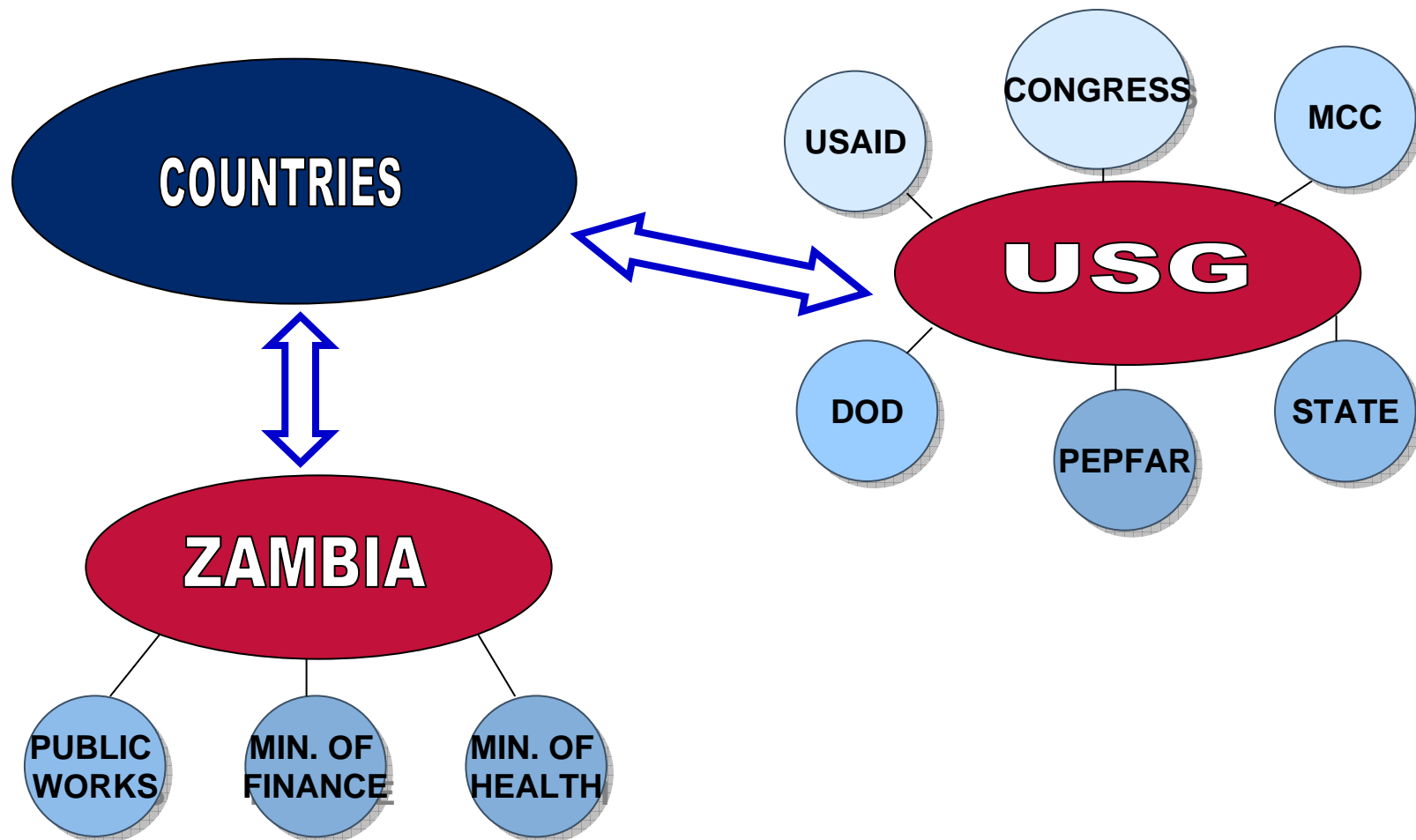
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PARTICIPANTS



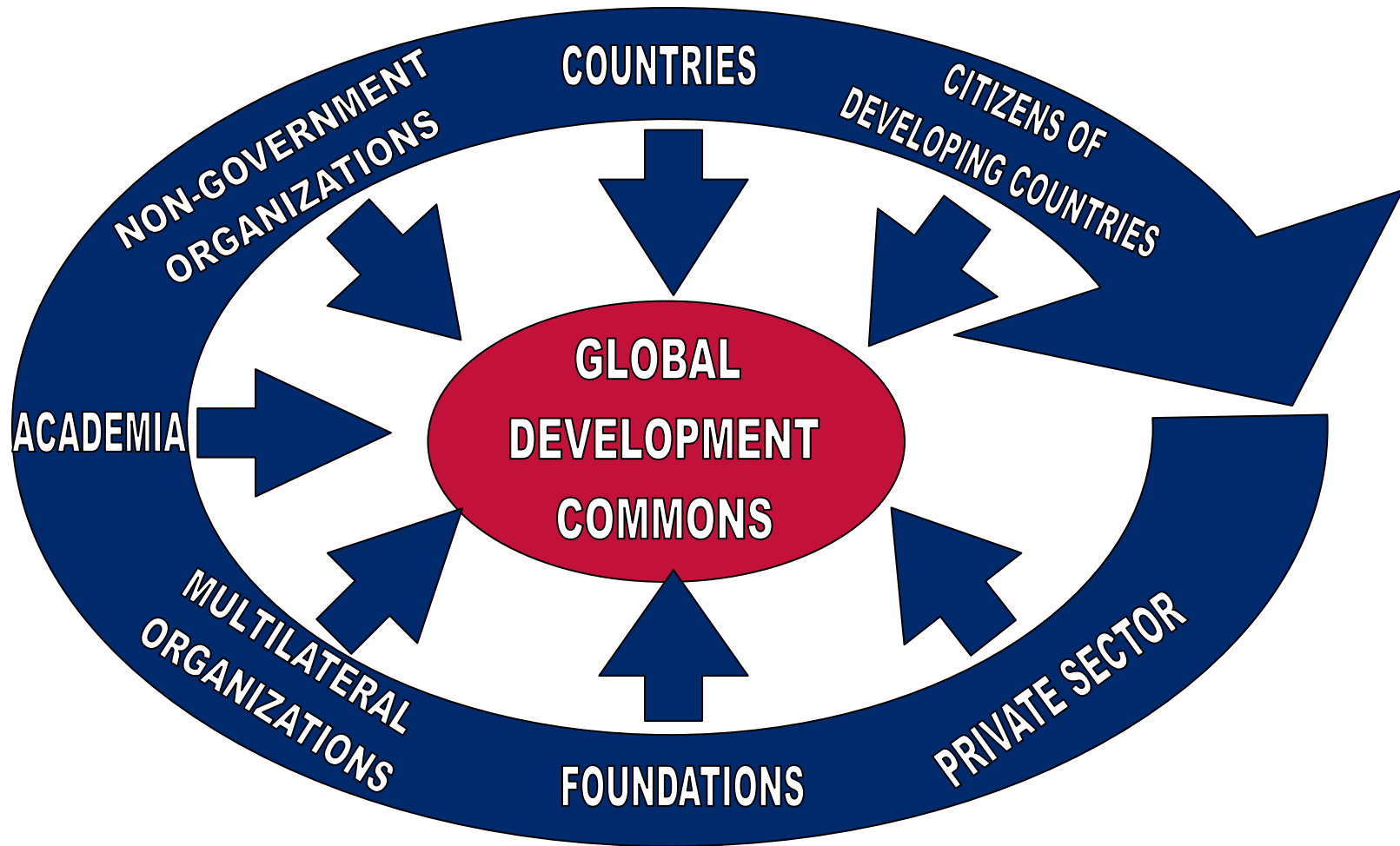


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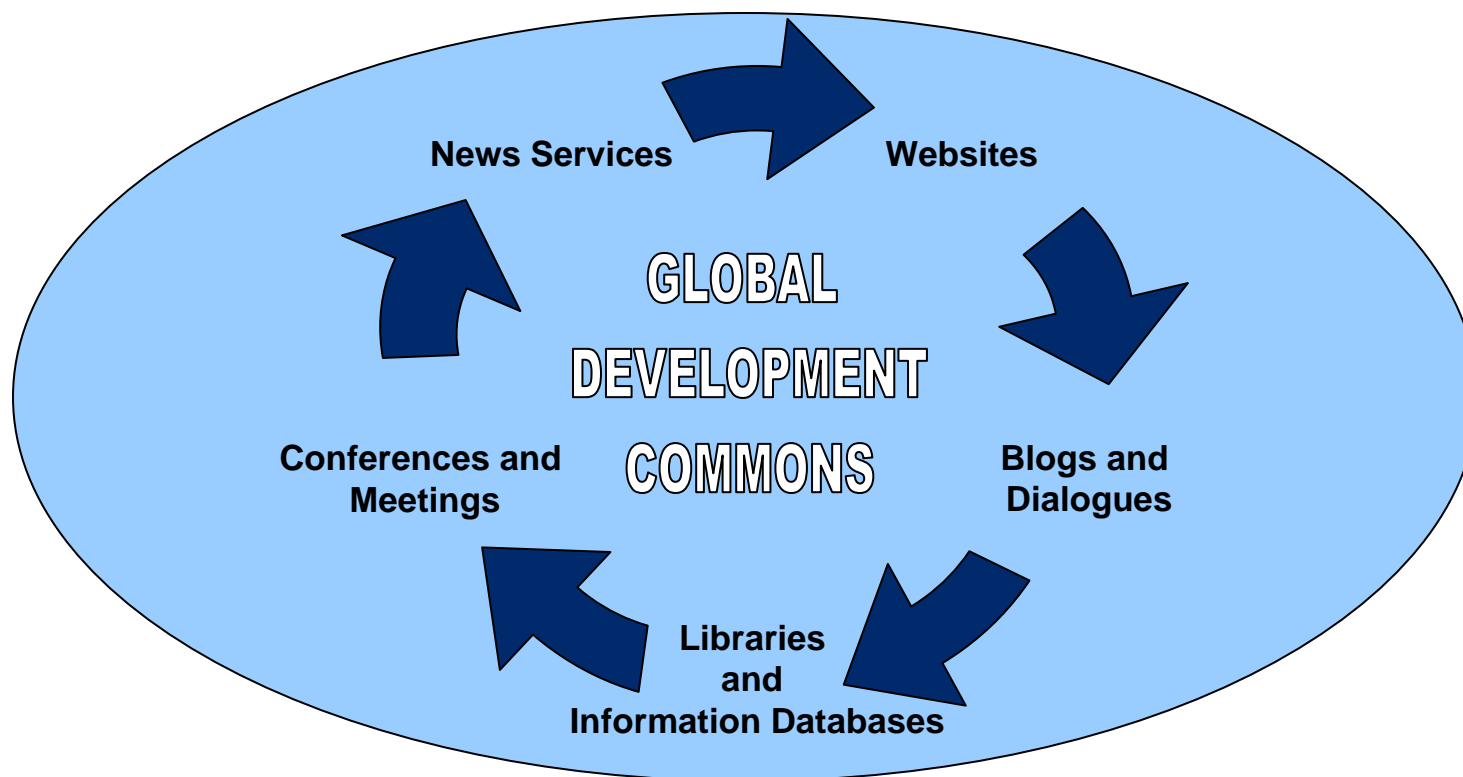
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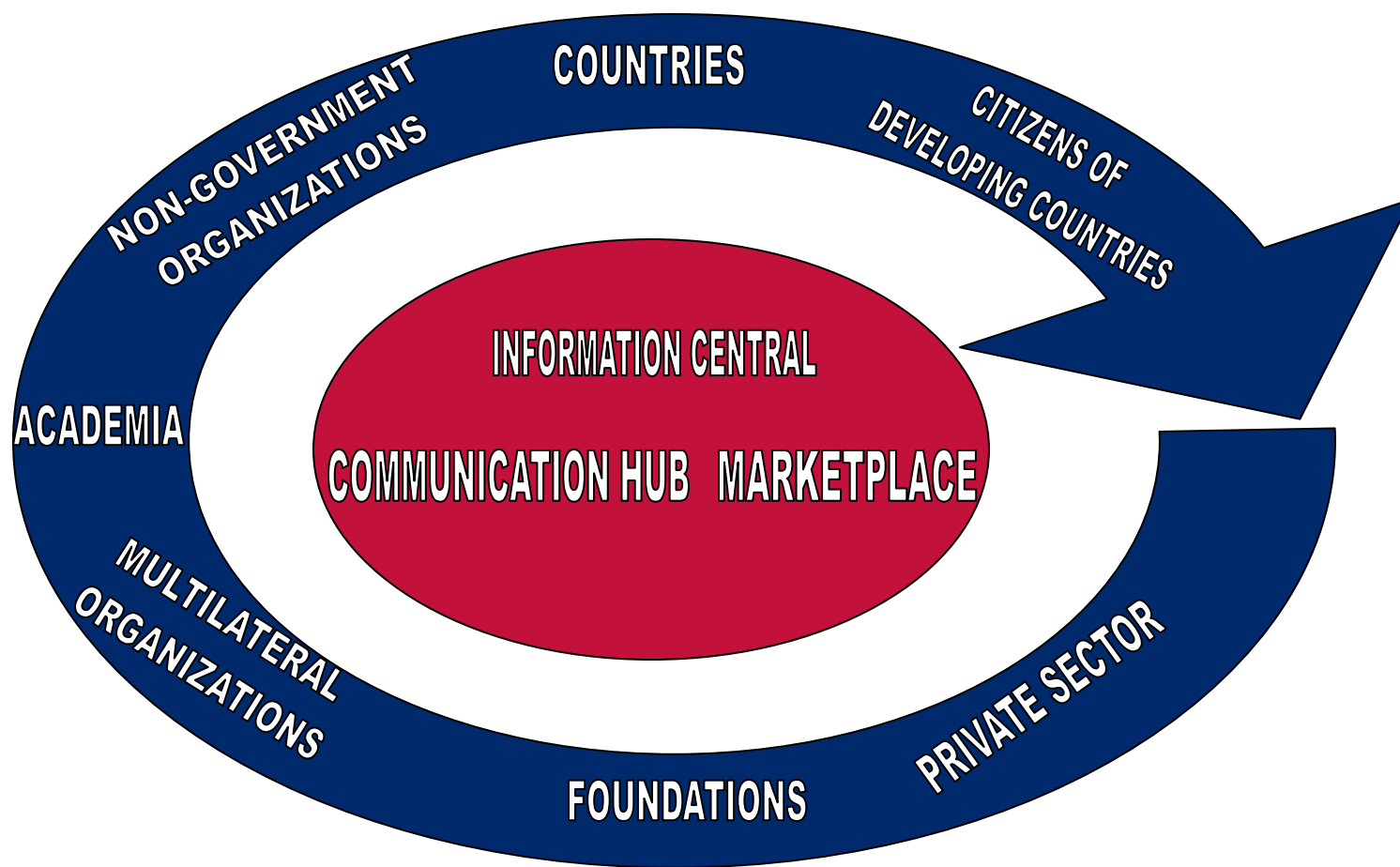
INFORMATION SOURCES





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GDC ACTION COMPONENTS





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INFORMATION CENTRAL

- Advanced 'Google like' search function
- Development websites & documents
- Advanced search functions
- Current & cost efficient

COMMUNICATION HUB

- 'Blog' Like
- 'Wiki Q & A' function
- Creates Dialogue
- Topic and Country
- Questions, best-practices, etc.



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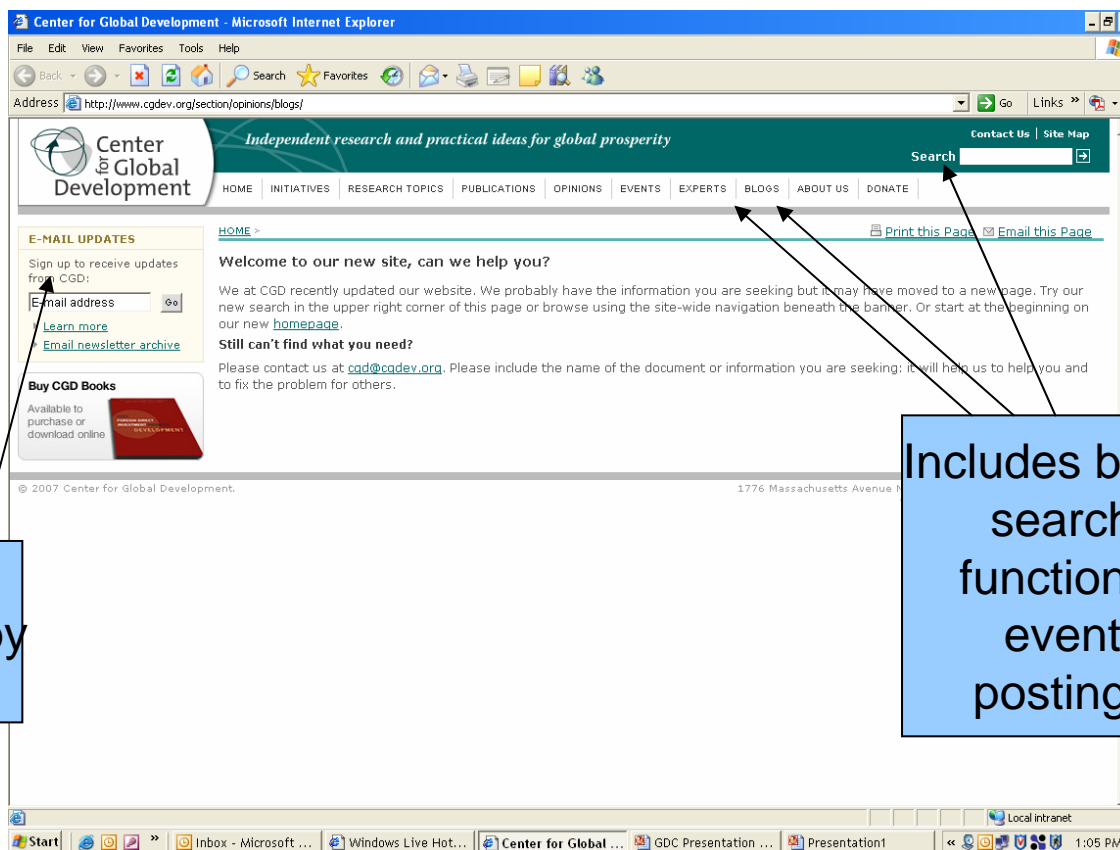
MARKETPLACE

- 'Craig's List & E-bay like' trading
- Goods needed
- Service sought or offered
- Partnership highlights



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WHAT'S OUT THERE?



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updates by
topic

Includes blogs,
search
functions,
event
postings



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The "special" Angolans

October 16th, 2007 Anna Nadgrodiewicz Posted in Africa No Comments »

Angola's story is one all too common in resource-rich developing countries, where impressive growth figures fail to translate into meaningful improvements of an average person's life. Instead, a prominent group of well-connected *nouveau riche* emerges and seizes the reigns of political and economic power in the country. That leaves the rest of the population outside of Braudel's bell jar, an "invisible structure ... that reserved capitalism for a very small sector of society."

NYT reports that due to the recent oil windfall profits, Angola is seeing an unprecedented rush of grand infrastructure projects: building new roads and railroad tracks, renovating airports, etc. In contract, improvements in the general welfare leave much to be desired.

Angola is gushing oil, pumping about 2 million barrels a day, more than any other African country except Nigeria. The International Monetary Fund projects a 24 percent economic growth this year — one of the fastest rates in the world. The government is taking in two and a half times as much money as it did three years ago. But Angolans, by many indications, remain as poor as ever. The poverty rate is a matter of debate: the government claims a 12 percent drop in the past five years; analysts for the Catholic University of Angola's research center say two in three Angolans still live on \$2 or less a day, the same percentage as in 2002. Still, no one disputes that most Angolans face appalling living conditions, sky-high infant mortality rates, dirty water, illiteracy and a host of other ills.

One reason for this is that the investments in physical infrastructure have not been matched by corresponding efforts to build political and economic institutions of democratic governance and inclusive free market. The fact that Angola has recently emerged from almost 30 years of near-continuous civil war following its 1975 independence from Portugal certainly doesn't help. But even after the hostilities seized in 2002, not much progress has been accomplished. Freedom House gives Angola a score of 6 on Political Rights and 5 on Civil Liberties (on a 1-7 scale; 1 indicates the highest degree of freedom and 7 the lowest). Correspondingly, the 2007 Index of Economic

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WHAT'S OUT THERE?



Tools designed to
be used by
**development
practitioners**

Information
available in
multiple
languages

FACE-TO-FACE EXCHANGES

- Global World Economic Forum
- Joint Donor Recipient Country Planning Process
- International AIDS Conference

USAID'S GDC ROLE?

- Partner with cutting-edge information “experts”
- Refine information, communication and marketplace tools
- Increase country and citizen GDC access

WORKING GROUP NEXT STEPS

- Determine USAID value added in web site/portals
 - Conduct Agency wide Mission-level GDC survey
 - Recruit “pilot missions” for in depth GDC input
 - Examine “end-user’s interest/demand
 - Identify barriers to “bottom-up” GDC access
- Explore “Forward Looking Sectors/Markets” Concept
 - Which sectors hold the greatest promise?
 - Is it land tenure, democracy, energy, value chain?
 - How can we “build-out” a marketplace within the GDC?
 - Revitalize M&E for best practices
- End Goal: Identify our comparative advantages